drugs. The Government is, however, again reviewing the continued marketing of all antidiarrhocal preparations moving in the market in consultation with experts.

Doctor—Population Ratio

312. SHRI V. GOPALSAMY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the ratio of doctors to the existing population, State-wise; and

(b) the steps taken by Government to provide medical service in rural areas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI O.K. THARA DEVI SIDDHARTHA): (a) A Statement showing the number of doctors and average population served in different State/UTs in 1990 is attached. *(See* below).

(b) Health is a State subject. In the rural areas services are provided through a network of integrated health and family welfare delivery system. Health care programmes have been restructured and reoriented from time to time for attaining the objectives of national health policy for 'Health For All' by 2000 A.D. Priority has been accorded to consolidation of the rural health infrastructure *viz.,* sub-centres, primary health centres and community health cnetres. However, the Central Government also supplements these efforts through investment in communicable and non-communicable diseases control and eradication programmes.

Statement

Number of Doctor's and Average population served in different STATES/UTs-1990

Sl. No.	States/UTs	Doctors engaged under Govt. agency	Total	Population served by per doctor	period to which dates is related
1.	Andhra Pradesh	+	33283*	1:1924	31.12.90
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	233	233	1:3536	31.12.90
3.	Assam	2660	2660	1:8750	31.12.87
4.	Bihar	+	24486	1:3411	30.6.89
5.	Goa	517	517	1:2523	31.12.90
6.	Gujarat	2835	2835	1:13976	31.12.88
7.	Haryana	1294	1294	1:11705	31.01.87
8.	Himachal Pradesh	937	937	1:5350	31.12.89
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	+	3778*	1:1884	31.12.88
10.	Karnataka	+	31028*	1:1457	31.12.90
11.	Kerala	4163	4163	1:7213	31.12.90
12.	Madhya Pradesh	+	9060	1:6803	31.12.88
13.	Maharashtra	+	62770*	1:1179	31.12.89
14.	Manipur	668	668	1:2629	31.12.89
15.	Meghalaya	322	322	1:5557	31.12.90
16.	Mizoram	138	138	1:5123	31.12.90
17.	Nagaland	202	202	1:5401	31.12.89
18.	Orissa	4489	4489	1:6985	31.12.90
19.	Punjab	3462	3462	1:5642	31.12.89
20.	Rajasthan	+	13477*	1:3295	31.12.90

Sl. No.	States/UTs	Doctors engaged under Govt. agency	Total	Population served by per doctor	period to which dates is related
21.	Sikkim	101	101	1:4297	31.12.89
22.	Tamil Nadu	+	48291*	1:1165	31.12.90
23.	Tripura	673	673	1:3822	31.12.90
24.	Uttar Pradesh	8630	8630	1:15438	31.12.89
25.	West Bengal	+	30092	1:2148	31.12.89
26.	A&N Islands	126	126	1:2325	31.12.90
27.	Chandigarh	882	882	1:813	31.12.89
28.	D&N Haveli	12	12	1:11000	31.12.90
29.	Daman & Diu	20	20	(Included in Goa)	31.12.90
30.	Delhi (Delhi Admn. Hosp.&Dispensaries)	1549	1549	1:5937	31.12.90
31.	Lakshadweep	27	27	1:1741	31.12.90
32.	Pondicherry	722	722	1:994	31.12.88

NOTE. 1.* = Regd. number of doctors, 2.=Not available.
3. Ratio has been worked out with the annual estimates of population of the year to which the data relates
4. Govcrnmant agency includes Central/State Government Hospital, Public Sector Undertaking Hospital etc.
(Source: Health Information of India, 1991 published by Central Bureau of Health Intelligence (Dtc. General of Health Services).

Finalisation of new Medical Education Policy

313. SHRI PASUMPON THA. KIRUTTINAN : SHRI V. GOPALSAMY :

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have finalised the proposed new Medical Education Policy; and

(b) whether the Committee constituted under the NDC submitted its report?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI D.K. THARA DEVI SIDDHARTHA): (a) No, Sir.

(b No, Sir.

High Iron Level Causing Heart Attacks

314. DR. SANJAYA SINH : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that high level of Iron in the Body has been identified as a risk factor in heart attacks as per a news item entitled—'High Iron level risky for heart attacks' which appeared in the Indian Express, dt. 22.9.92;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) what is the reaction of Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI D.K. THARA DEVI SIDDHARTHA): (a) and (b) The news article 'High Stored Iron Level are associated with Excess risk of Myocardial Infarction in Eastern Finnish Man' appeared in a September, 1992